



SOCIAL SECURITY

Office of the Commissioner

March 28, 2000

Dear NHANES Participant:

The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) is a primary source of health information about all people living in the United States. Because our population is growing older, the current NHANES has a special emphasis on the health of older Americans. The Social Security Administration fully supports the National Center for Health and Statistics in this important program. The survey is voluntary and your right to Social Security benefits will not be affected by your participation.

This survey will help all of us do a better job in meeting the health care needs of our older population. Therefore, we encourage you to take part. Your participation is crucial to the success of NHANES.

Sincerely,

Kenneth S. Apfel
Commissioner
of Social Security